



# AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

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## WAGE RATES INDEXES, AUSTRALIA, DECEMBER 1981 (PRELIMINARY)

**PHONE INQUIRIES** *for more information about these statistics*—contact Mr Geoff Winter on Canberra (062) 52 6576 or any of our State offices.  
*other inquiries including copies of publications*—contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 6627 or in any of our State offices.

**MAIL INQUIRIES** *write to* Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any of our State offices.

### MAIN FEATURES

**In December 1981, the weighted average minimum weekly wage rate for adult males increased by \$4.90 to \$209.85. The rate for adult females increased by \$4.06 to \$196.05.**

**Significant increases were granted in respect of a number of Federal and State awards. The major increases affecting the indexes occurred in the engineering, metals, vehicles and the textiles, clothing and footwear industries.**

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

More information on these statistics of weighted average minimum weekly and hourly wage rates and index numbers for adult males and adult females will appear later in the monthly publication *Wage Rates, Australia* (6312.0) which also contains explanatory notes covering definitions, scope of the statistics, etc. Revised indexes based on more up-to-date weighting patterns are being developed and are expected to be published in 1982.

#### Definitions, etc.

2. The wage rates used in the compilation of the indexes are the lowest rates for a full week's work (excluding overtime) prescribed for particular occupations in awards or determinations of Federal or State industrial authorities; in collective agreements registered with these authorities; or in unregistered collective agreements where these are dominant in particular industries. The indexes are designed to measure movements in prescribed minimum rates of *wages* as distinct from *salaries*; those awards, etc. which relate solely or mainly to salary earners are therefore excluded. Because of delays in the receipt of notification of changes in wage rates as well as retrospective changes to rates, **all figures shown in this publication are subject to revision.** As such revisions are made they are published in the normal monthly tables of this publication.

3. The indexes are designed to measure trends in wage rates in current awards, etc. excluding the effects of changes in the relative importance of industries, awards and occupations. The weighted average wage rates shown in these tables are therefore indexes expressed in money terms, and do not purport to be actual current averages. Similarly, neither these weighted average wage rates nor the corresponding index numbers measure the relative levels of average current wage rates as between States or industries.

4. For adult males the weekly wage rates exclude rural industry; in addition the hourly rates exclude shipping and stevedoring, for which data to compute hourly wages are not available. The weekly and hourly wage rates for adult females exclude rural industry, mining and quarrying, and building and construction.

5. The annual changes shown in Tables 1, 2 and 4 measure the percentage change from the same month for the previous year. The percentages may fluctuate from month to month owing to the timing of significant award changes.

#### Related publications

6. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

#### Symbols and other usages

n.e.i. not elsewhere included

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TABLE 1. - WEEKLY AND HOURLY WAGE RATES (A) - ALL INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA

WEIGHTED AVERAGE MINIMUM WEEKLY RATES PAYABLE FOR A FULL WEEK'S WORK (EXCLUDING OVERTIME), AS PRESCRIBED IN AWARDS, DETERMINATIONS AND COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS; WEIGHTED AVERAGE MINIMUM HOURLY RATES PAYABLE; AND INDEX NUMBERS OF WAGE RATES.

END OF -	ADULT MALES					ADULT FEMALES				
	WEEKLY WAGE RATES			HOURLY WAGE RATES		WEEKLY WAGE RATES			HOURLY WAGE RATES	
	WAGE RATES \$	ANNUAL CHANGE %	INDEX NUMBERS (B)	WAGE RATES (CENTS)	INDEX NUMBERS (B)	WAGE RATES \$	ANNUAL CHANGE %	INDEX NUMBERS (B)	WAGE RATES (CENTS)	INDEX NUMBERS (B)
1980 -										
NOVEMBER	186.95	10.9	661.9	467.35	660.6	173.76	12.7	872.8	438.01	873.1
DECEMBER	187.09	10.8	662.5	467.72	661.1	174.07	12.8	874.4	438.80	874.6
1981 -										
JANUARY	193.93	9.8	686.7	484.80	685.2	180.49	11.9	906.6	454.97	906.8
FEBRUARY	193.99	9.7	686.9	484.96	685.4	180.62	12.0	907.3	455.31	907.5
MARCH	194.06	9.5	687.1	485.13	685.7	180.64	11.9	907.4	455.36	907.6
APRIL	194.08	9.4	687.2	485.18	685.8	180.65	11.5	907.4	455.38	907.7
MAY	201.01	13.1	711.8	502.51	710.3	187.09	15.5	939.8	471.61	940.0
JUNE	201.06	13.1	711.9	502.64	710.4	187.15	15.5	940.1	471.76	940.3
JULY	201.43	8.6	713.2	503.57	711.8	187.28	9.5	940.7	472.08	941.0
AUGUST	202.07	8.8	715.5	505.22	714.1	187.40	9.3	941.3	472.39	941.6
SEPTEMBER	202.75	8.8	717.9	506.98	716.6	188.05	9.0	944.6	474.02	944.8
OCTOBER	203.28	8.8	719.8	508.34	718.5	188.37	8.5	946.2	474.85	946.5
NOVEMBER	204.95	9.6	725.7	512.63	724.6	191.99	10.5	964.4	483.96	964.6
DECEMBER	209.85	12.2	743.0	525.22	742.4	196.05	12.6	984.8	494.20	985.1

(A) INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTARY PAYMENTS IN THE METAL INDUSTRY AWARD, PART 1 (B) BASE-WEIGHTED AVERAGE MINIMUM WAGE RATE, AUSTRALIA, YEAR 1954 = 100.

TABLE 2. - WEEKLY WAGE RATES - ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 31 DECEMBER 1981.  
WEIGHTED AVERAGE MINIMUM WEEKLY RATES PAYABLE FOR A FULL WEEK'S WORK (EXCLUDING OVERTIME), AS PRESCRIBED IN AWARDS, DETERMINATIONS AND COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS; AND INDEX NUMBERS OF WAGE RATES.

INDUSTRY GROUP	WAGE RATES \$							AUSTRALIA	
	N.S.W.	VIC.	QLD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	AUST.	ANNUAL CHANGE %	INDEX NOS.(A)
MINING AND QUARRYING (B) (C)	258.65	204.39	244.98	193.62	206.93	209.95	240.76	8.3	852.5
MANUFACTURING -									
ENGINEERING, METALS, VEHICLES, ETC (C)	202.68	211.18	219.55	205.45	200.06	200.70	206.78	15.5	732.2
TEXTILES, CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	197.73	200.54	199.49	195.26	199.98	192.78	199.13	15.1	705.1
FOOD, DRINK AND TOBACCO (C)	199.72	207.00	210.59	197.20	208.26	196.01	204.25	12.0	723.2
SAWMILLING, FURNITURE, ETC.	196.55	189.51	206.67	184.87	194.18	181.46	195.08	9.8	690.7
PAPER, PRINTING, ETC. (C)	200.41	206.15	223.87	202.30	205.75	194.43	204.56	9.2	724.3
OTHER MANUFACTURING (C)	201.68	202.17	202.68	196.00	193.41	187.37	200.62	10.9	710.3
ALL MANUFACTURING GROUPS (C)	201.31	206.03	212.59	201.18	198.83	194.02	203.68	13.3	721.2
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION (C)	231.66	229.91	213.81	228.26	215.02	207.93	225.24	11.9	797.5
RAILWAY SERVICES (C)	176.46	169.97	226.90	189.11	177.08	197.99	189.65	11.1	671.5
ROAD AND AIR TRANSPORT (C)	213.43	200.77	205.06	203.06	208.92	202.82	207.43	12.1	734.5
SHIPPING AND STEVEDORING (C)(D)	243.75	243.82	234.58	235.74	244.58	236.42	240.86	8.2	852.8
COMMUNICATION	232.04	233.64	231.78	229.13	233.86	225.26	232.06	7.4	821.7
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE (C)	209.35	216.47	208.22	205.50	204.14	201.84	210.14	12.6	744.1
PUBLIC AUTHORITIES, (N.E.I.) AND COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS SERVICES	209.13	213.51	215.32	195.08	202.32	211.87	209.58	11.7	742.1
AMUSEMENTS, HOTELS, PERSONAL SERVICES, ETC	195.80	193.52	193.87	197.74	183.65	181.57	193.78	11.6	686.1
ALL INDUSTRY GROUPS (C)(E)	210.07	209.91	215.95	206.74	203.76	202.56	209.85	12.2	743.0

(A) BASE-WEIGHTED AVERAGE MINIMUM WEEKLY WAGE RATE, AUSTRALIA, YEAR 1954 = 100. (B) FOR MINING, WAGE RATES ARE THOSE PRESCRIBED FOR THE PRINCIPAL MINING CENTRES AND INCLUDE LEAD BONUSES ETC. (C) FOR STATES OTHER THAN WESTERN AUSTRALIA, INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTARY PAYMENTS IN THE METAL INDUSTRY AWARD, PART 1. (D) INCLUDES WAGE RATES (AND VALUE OF KEEP) FOR OCCUPATIONS IN THE COASTAL SHIPPING SERVICE, OTHER THAN MASTERS, ENGINEERS AND OTHER OFFICERS. (E) EXCLUDES RURAL INDUSTRY



TABLE 3. - HOURLY WAGE RATES - ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 31 DECEMBER 1981.  
WEIGHTED AVERAGE MINIMUM HOURLY RATES PAYABLE AND INDEX NUMBERS OF HOURLY RATES.

INDUSTRY GROUP	N.S.W.	VIC.	QLD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	AUST.
WAGE RATES (CENTS)							
MINING AND QUARRYING (A) (B)	723.55	510.96	646.71	484.04	542.23	536.72	649.67
MANUFACTURING -							
ENGINEERING, METALS, VEHICLES, ETC (B)	506.89	528.33	549.21	513.63	500.59	501.76	517.20
TEXTILES, CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	494.33	501.36	498.73	488.15	499.95	481.95	497.82
FOOD, DRINK AND TOBACCO (B)	499.98	517.50	526.48	492.99	528.58	490.04	511.20
SAWMILLING, FURNITURE, ETC.	491.38	473.77	516.68	462.19	485.45	453.66	487.70
PAPER, PRINTING, ETC. (B)	501.02	516.11	564.54	505.75	524.76	486.06	512.51
OTHER MANUFACTURING (B)	505.97	505.89	506.69	491.17	483.52	468.82	502.56
ALL MANUFACTURING GROUPS (B)	503.80	515.38	531.85	503.16	498.67	485.11	509.65
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION (B)	580.03	574.77	534.52	570.66	537.55	519.82	563.41
RAILWAY SERVICES (B)	441.15	425.38	567.24	472.77	442.69	494.97	474.24
ROAD AND AIR TRANSPORT (B)	533.57	501.92	512.66	507.65	522.29	507.06	518.57
COMMUNICATION	607.88	610.44	605.60	606.72	609.47	590.13	607.68
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE (B)	523.38	541.19	520.56	513.75	510.36	504.61	525.34
PUBLIC AUTHORITIES, (N.E.I.) AND COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS SERVICES	533.12	548.38	544.81	497.28	511.17	537.90	533.95
AMUSEMENTS, HOTELS, PERSONAL SERVICES, ETC	489.51	483.80	484.68	494.35	459.12	453.93	484.44
ALL INDUSTRY GROUPS (B) (D)	527.25	524.28	540.85	515.46	509.66	502.90	525.22
INDEX NUMBERS (C)							
MINING AND QUARRYING (A) (B)	1022.7	722.2	914.1	684.2	766.4	758.6	918.3
MANUFACTURING -							
ENGINEERING, METALS, VEHICLES, ETC (B)	716.5	746.8	776.3	726.0	707.5	709.2	731.0
TEXTILES, CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	698.7	708.6	704.9	690.0	706.6	681.2	703.6
FOOD, DRINK AND TOBACCO (B)	706.7	731.5	744.1	696.8	747.1	692.6	722.5
SAWMILLING, FURNITURE, ETC.	694.5	669.6	730.3	653.3	686.2	641.2	689.3
PAPER, PRINTING, ETC. (B)	708.2	729.5	797.9	714.8	741.7	687.0	724.4
OTHER MANUFACTURING (B)	715.2	715.0	716.2	694.2	683.4	662.6	710.3
ALL MANUFACTURING GROUPS (B)	712.1	728.4	751.7	711.2	704.8	685.7	720.4
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION (B)	819.8	812.4	755.5	806.6	759.8	734.7	796.3
RAILWAY SERVICES (B)	623.5	601.2	801.8	668.2	625.7	699.6	670.3
ROAD AND AIR TRANSPORT (B)	754.2	709.4	724.6	717.5	738.2	716.7	733.0
COMMUNICATION	859.2	862.8	856.0	857.6	861.4	834.1	858.9
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE (B)	739.8	764.9	735.8	726.2	721.4	713.2	742.5
PUBLIC AUTHORITIES, (N.E.I.) AND COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS SERVICES	753.5	775.1	770.0	702.9	722.5	760.3	754.7
AMUSEMENTS, HOTELS, PERSONAL SERVICES, ETC	691.9	683.8	685.1	698.7	648.9	641.6	684.7
ALL INDUSTRY GROUPS (B) (D)	745.2	741.0	764.5	728.6	720.4	710.8	742.4

(A) FOR MINING, WAGE RATES ARE THOSE PRESCRIBED FOR THE PRINCIPAL MINING CENTRES AND INCLUDE LEAD BONUSES, ETC. (B) FOR STATES OTHER THAN WESTERN AUSTRALIA, INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTARY PAYMENTS IN THE METAL INDUSTRY AWARD, PART 1 (C) BASE-WEIGHTED AVERAGE MINIMUM HOURLY WAGE RATE, AUSTRALIA, YEAR 1954 = 100. (D) EXCLUDES RURAL INDUSTRY AND SHIPPING AND STEVEDORING



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TABLE 4. - WEEKLY WAGE RATES - ADULT FEMALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 31 DECEMBER 1981.

WEIGHTED AVERAGE MINIMUM WEEKLY RATES PAYABLE FOR A FULL WEEK'S WORK (EXCLUDING OVERTIME), AS PRESCRIBED IN AWARDS, DETERMINATIONS AND COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS; AND INDEX NUMBERS OF WAGE RATES.

INDUSTRY GROUP	WAGE RATES \$							AUSTRALIA	
	N.S.W.	VIC.	QLD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	AUST.	ANNUAL CHANGE %	INDEX NOS.(A)
MANUFACTURING -									
ENGINEERING, METALS, VEHICLES, ETC(B)	205.11	202.49	201.47	195.98	193.30	194.47	202.73	16.8	1018.3
TEXTILES, CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	191.44	189.03	189.33	191.08	191.36	183.98	190.02	15.1	954.5
FOOD, DRINK AND TOBACCO	197.72	189.16	191.93	186.83	187.25	179.35	191.85	10.9	963.7
OTHER MANUFACTURING (B)	190.00	190.38	192.47	181.12	185.97	175.00	189.43	10.8	951.5
ALL MANUFACTURING GROUPS (B)	194.66	191.25	191.99	189.67	189.42	182.29	192.42	13.9	966.5
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION	189.28	191.74	201.44	194.19	193.41	199.85	192.76	12.4	968.2
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	208.81	209.00	206.29	201.74	201.40	181.09	206.51	11.9	1037.3
PUBLIC AUTHORITIES, (N.E.I.) AND COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS SERVICES	194.63	211.47	193.85	193.40	193.70	188.34	199.28	11.0	1001.0
AMUSEMENTS, HOTELS, PERSONAL SERVICES, ETC	186.30	186.95	182.10	190.92	178.01	177.43	185.38	10.5	931.2
ALL INDUSTRY GROUPS (B)	196.93	196.53	196.34	194.47	193.19	182.58	196.05	12.6	984.8

(A) BASE-WEIGHTED AVERAGE MINIMUM WEEKLY WAGE RATE, AUSTRALIA, YEAR 1954 = 100. (B) FOR STATES OTHER THAN WESTERN AUSTRALIA, INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTARY PAYMENTS IN THE METAL INDUSTRY AWARD, PART 1.

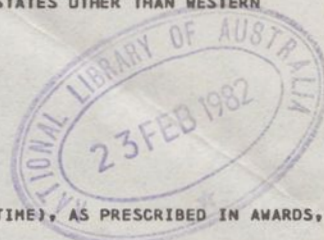


TABLE 5. WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ALL GROUPS(A)

WEIGHTED AVERAGE MINIMUM WEEKLY WAGE RATES PAYABLE FOR A FULL WEEK'S WORK (EXCLUDING OVERTIME), AS PRESCRIBED IN AWARDS, DETERMINATIONS AND COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

END OF-	N.S.W.	VIC.	QLD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	AUSTRALIA		
							FEDERAL AWARDS, ETC.	STATE AWARDS, ETC.	ALL AWARDS, ETC.
ADULT MALES									
1980 -									
NOVEMBER	187.64	185.75	191.22	184.27	183.99	184.75	188.31	185.30	186.95
DECEMBER	187.72	185.95	191.53	184.39	184.03	184.83	188.43	185.47	187.09
1981 -									
JANUARY	194.61	192.75	198.54	191.28	190.00	192.16	195.35	192.21	193.93
FEBRUARY	194.62	192.85	198.59	191.36	190.23	192.16	195.43	192.24	193.99
MARCH	194.57	193.03	198.59	191.65	190.35	192.36	195.47	192.35	194.06
APRIL	194.54	193.07	198.61	191.67	190.55	192.36	195.47	192.39	194.08
MAY	201.54	199.91	206.07	198.62	196.51	199.15	202.41	199.32	201.01
JUNE	201.62	199.92	206.07	198.74	196.51	199.30	202.44	199.39	201.06
JULY	201.62	200.67	206.36	199.81	196.65	199.55	202.92	199.62	201.43
AUGUST	202.15	200.82	209.09	199.92	196.77	199.62	203.05	200.87	202.07
SEPTEMBER	202.85	201.43	209.53	200.65	198.06	200.40	203.88	201.39	202.75
OCTOBER	203.42	202.44	209.57	200.78	198.13	200.41	203.96	202.46	203.28
NOVEMBER	204.53	203.00	214.65	200.79	203.70	200.44	204.15	205.91	204.95
DECEMBER	210.07	209.91	215.95	206.74	203.76	202.56	211.42	207.95	209.85
ADULT FEMALES									
1980 -									
NOVEMBER	173.76	174.09	176.31	171.89	172.23	166.35	165.18	181.21	173.76
DECEMBER	173.86	174.61	176.56	172.56	172.59	166.56	165.51	181.51	174.07
1981 -									
JANUARY	180.30	181.06	183.09	179.08	178.24	172.72	171.63	188.18	180.49
FEBRUARY	180.33	181.17	183.18	179.19	179.60	172.72	171.74	188.34	180.62
MARCH	180.38	181.17	183.18	179.19	179.60	172.72	171.74	188.37	180.64
APRIL	180.38	181.17	183.18	179.33	179.60	172.72	171.74	188.39	180.65
MAY	186.84	187.66	189.77	185.78	185.28	178.94	177.94	195.04	187.09
JUNE	186.97	187.66	189.77	185.81	185.28	179.03	177.98	195.11	187.15
JULY	187.03	187.67	189.83	186.76	185.66	179.21	178.00	195.33	187.28
AUGUST	187.06	187.73	190.17	186.92	186.42	179.31	178.10	195.47	187.40
SEPTEMBER	187.53	188.61	190.99	187.48	186.81	179.97	178.96	195.94	188.05
OCTOBER	188.04	188.92	190.99	187.57	186.88	179.97	178.96	196.55	188.37
NOVEMBER	192.77	191.17	195.76	188.73	192.68	180.34	182.82	199.95	191.99
DECEMBER	196.93	196.53	196.34	194.47	193.19	182.58	188.20	202.87	196.05

(A) FOR STATES OTHER THAN WESTERN AUSTRALIA, INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTARY PAYMENTS IN THE METAL INDUSTRY AWARD, PART 1.